NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1868.

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WASHINGTON.

MECRETARY STATION REMOVED. THE SENATE DENIES THE PRESIDENT'S POWER-WARRANT FOR GEN. THOMAS'S ARREST-IM-PEACHMEN, AGAIN DEMANDED—GEN. GRANT'S ATTITUDE—GEN. SHERMAN'S LETTER TO THE PRE DENT-OMINOUS ACCIDENT IN THE Of Gen. Thomas. THE STATE DINNER.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Feb. 21, 1868.

I ere excitement has been witnessed here to-day than at any previous time since the assassination of President Lincoln. Until after the hour of noon, everything was as quiet and sleepy as usual. The Senate was calmly debating the subject of Reconstruction, while the House was lazily engaged on private bills. A resolution had just been passed to devote to-morrow's session to debate only, when Mr. Johnson's coup d'élat was announced. At about 11 e'clock the President's private Secretary delivered to the Senate a message from Mr. Johnson, declaring that he bad removed Edwin M. Stanton from the office of Secretary of War, and had placed Brevet Major-Gen. Thomas, Adjutant-General of the Army, in his stead until a successor shall be appointed. Senator Conkling was speaking at the time, and the communication being of an executive character, they were not read in open session. The purport of the message was soon ascertained, however, and an informal caucus of the Republicans was held immediately, and an Executive session was decided upon for the purpose of immediate action. A committee, consisting of Senators Cameron, Thayer, Cattell, and Conness was appointed to visit Secretary Stanton and Gen. Grant in the mean time, and express to them the desire of the dominant party in Congress. This committee immedistely called upon Mr. Stanton, reaching his office at about 2 o'clock. Finding him in quiet possession of the office, they said that it was the desire of the Congress of the United States that he should remain firm and unyielding in the execution of his trust, and against the usurpation of President Johnson, but to continue to obey the laws, and they would support him. Secretary Stanton replied that he had received President Johnson's order relieving him from duty but that he could not recognize it, unless the Senate coucurred. This satisfied the Committee, and after conversation with Secretary Stanton on private matters. they visited Gen. Grant. They found the General in his office, and in as few words as possible asked him what course he would take should it become necessary for him to act. He declined to express any opinion officially, but the Committee understood that he could not and would not recognize the President's order regarding Stanton, should the Senate fail to agree with the same. The Committee then returned to the Senate Chamber and reported that Secretary Stanton would retain his office until the Senate should take action, and that Gen. Grant would recognize Congress as a portion of the Government, and not Andrew Johnson as the sole power. When the Committee had reperted, the Senate immediately, at about 3 o'clock, went into Executive session, and began the consideration of the whole subject, remaining in session until

The removal soon became generally known, and the whole Capitol was thrown into the greatest extement. The House from 3 o'clock until 5, presented a scene that has not been witnessed since the war times when the news of a great victory or defeat to our arms was announced. The current business was generally suspended. Members gathered in knots the subject. All sorts of ramors were affoat. Prominent members sat down and wrote letters to Secretary Stanton to stand firm and refuse to yield, while several Representatives left their places and called on him in person. There was direct telegraphic communication between the Capital and the War Office, by which means Congress was kept informed of matters at the

9) o'clock.

At about 3j o'clock a communication was received from Secretary Stanton transmitting the President's order removing him, and it was read by Speaker Col-

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 21, 1883.

SIR: Gen. Thomas has just delivered to me a copy
of the inclosed order, which you will please communicate to the House of Representatives. Your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON.
Secretary of War.
To the Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Speaker of the
Rouse of Representatives.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21, 1868.

Size: By virtue of the power and authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States, you are hereby removed from office as Secretary of War, and your functions as such will terminate upon receipt of this communication.

rication.
You will transfer to Brevet Major-Gen. Lorenzo
Thomas, Adjutant General of the Army, who has
this day been authorized to act as Secretary of War
ad interim, all records, books, papers, and other public property now in your custody and charge. Respectfully yours. ANDREW JORNSON, President.
To the Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Washington, D. C.

This was the signal for the House to sit for regular business to-morrow, and on Mr. Butler's motion the resolution devoting to-morrow to speech-making only was rescinded, after a call of the Yeas and Navs by the Democrats. When the vote was about to be ber in favor impeachment, vote yea, and those opposed, no." Secretary Stanton's communication, meantime, was sento the Reconstruction Committee. An attempt was made by the Democrats to adjourn, ing and the comparing of notes was still kept up among members. The House refused to adjourn,

Covode, on a privileged question, got the matter before the House, and yielded to the motion that The House then, at nearly 5 o'clock, adjourned. Many of the members went to the Senate and

The Senate remained in executive session until 9 o'clock when Mr. Wilson's resolution was passed by a vote of 29 to 8, all those in the negative were Democrats except Mr. Edmunds who stood by his own resolution. The action of the Schate was immedistely communicated to Secretary Stanton and Gen. Grant. A committee was appointed to wait upon

Chief-Justice Carter of the Supreme Court of the

District, and the Supreme Court of the District, and they made an affidavit against Gen. Thomas, charging that he had violated the CivilTenure-of-Office bill. Justice Cartter immediately made out an order for his arrest, which has been placed in the hands of an officer, and that person has already gone in search

The Executive session of the Senate lasted about seven hours, and the proceedings were most interesting. Senator Fessenden opened the debate, and took strong ground against the authority of the President to remove Secretary Stanton and appoint a Secretary ad interim without the consent of the Senate. Senator Edmunds followed with a resolution which simply protested against Mr. Johnson's action. This was met with strong opposition, and after several amendments had been voted down, the main resolution was defeated on a call of the Yeas and Nays, and Senator Wilson's substitute was finally adopted. Nearly all of the Republicans participated in the debate. They were a unit upon the illegality of Mr. Johnson's action, and the only point of difference was upon the manner in which they should so express themselves to the President. The prompt action of the Senate has inspired the Republicans, who are jubilant, and confident. A resolution, which was delivered to the President at 10:30 to-night, is as follows:

In Executive Session, Senate of the United States, Feb. 21, 1868.—Whereas, The Senate have read and considered the communication of the President, stating that he had removed Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, and had designated the Adjutant-General of the army to act as Secretary of War ad interim;

refore, By the Senate of the United States, that nder the Constitution and laws of the United States, that under the Constitution and laws of the United States the President has no nower to remove the Secretary of War and designate any other officer to perform the duties of that officer ad interim.

ing to-morrow morning, and then Mr. Covode's removal of Secretary Stanton will be considered. It is useless to speculate upon what may be done, in regard to impeachment; but prominent Re evidence, to-night express their desire for the umediate impeachment of Mr. Johnson.

It appears that Adjutant-Gen. Thomas was sent for order making him Secretary of War ad interim, with instructions how to act in the matter. Gen. Thomas went from the Cabinet meeting to Secretary Stanton's office and presented the President's order assigning hun to the charge of the War Department, as Secretary, ad interim. Secretary Stanton received Gen Thomas courteously, and asked for time to consider, which request the General willingly grapted. Secretary Stanton remains in his office v Stanton refuse, which he will most certainly do. it then remains to be seen what action Gen. Thomas of the War Department not to obey any orders from any one connected with that Department, unless they come through him, the penalty being dismissal, Gen. Thomas's friends, many of whom are Republiand they say that he is determined to carry out th President's desires.

Midnight .- Intense excitement still prevails, and the hotel lobbies are crowded with people. The movement through Judge Cartter to arrest Gen. Thomas is not generally known, and all are in a feverish state of anxiety to learn the result.

Gen. Lorenzo Thomas was, during the war, Adjutant-General. In March, 1862, he was dispatched by Secretary Stanton to the South-West, to organize regiments of colored troops. The officer of the same name, who figured so prominently at Chattanooga, Nashville, and other points at the West, and since the war has been in command in Tennessee, is Gen. George H. Thomas.

When Judge Carter was applied to this evening for a writ for the arrest of Gen. Thomas, he at first objected on the ground that he had no authority to act, but, after some persuasion from those who demanded the writ, and a further investigation of the law, he decided that he had authority, and issued the warrant. One of the officers of the court is now (12:80) endeavoring to find Thomas.

The President gives out to his friends, to-night, that he has taken this action in the Stanton matter merely to test the constitutionality of the Tenure-of-Office law, and says that he wants it definitely settled in the courts. Should Secretary Stanton refuse to surrender possession to Gen. Thomas, proceedings are to be at once begun on a writ of que warranto, which takes precedence in the calendar, and may come up before the Circuit Court at any time. Appeal hes to the Supreme Court.

It is not true, as reported, that Gen. Thomas has

been arrested. In the Senate to-day considerable time was taken up in explanations of the dispatch which was sent in 1861 by Mr. Harvey, late Minister to Portugal, informing the Rebels of the intention to reënforce Fort Sumter. The subject was introduced in a personal explanation by Senator Grimes, made necessary by certain remarks by Senator Hendricks in debate yesterday. The point at issue seemed to be whether this disputch had the sanction of the Cabinet. Senator Cameron stoutly insisted that it had not, and asked that the Senate pass a resolution calling upon Secretary Seward for information on the subject. No action was taken. At 1 o'clock the consideration of the bill pending yesterday, to declare a majority of the votes cast at an election sufficient to ratify a Constitution under the Reconstruction law, was resumed. Senator Conkling took the floor, and made an able argument in reply to Senator Trumbull's speech of yesterday, in the course of which he de-fended the course which he had taken in the Committee on the pending subject, and gave an interesting history of the progress of the Reconstruction measures through the last Congress. Senator Trombull rejoined, sustaining the position which he took yesterday. The debate was cut short by a motion to go into Executive session, which prevailed at 2:30.

session a large delegation of Congressmen waited upon Secretary Stanton at the War Department, and were with him until after midnight. Among those who attended were Messrs, Bingham, Mooreremained around the lobbies waiting the action head, Dawes, and Ward, and Senators Wilson, Cameron, and others. In the Interview with them Secretary Stanton said that though he was opposed to any execution of force, still he could not surrender possession of the Department, unless forcibly compelled to do so.

About three weeks ago the Post-Office Department was informed that three mail pouches had been cut open at Elyria, Ohio, and their contents rifled. The Department at once acted upon the information, and dispatched an officer to investigate the robbery. No discoveries were made, however, and although

the utmost vigilance was exercised to discover the the violations were continued until the contents of thirteen pouches had been stolen in the same manner The Department has at this late day received a telegram from the special agent charged with the investigation of the robberies and the detection and arrest of the robbers, announcing that he has arrested two persons on suspicion, and that the violated mail matter was found on their persons.

Notwithstanding all the excitement here to-night Gen. Grant spent the evening with his family at the theater. He had an engagement to go to New-York to-night, but on account of what has occurred during the day, has postponed his visit.

A panie was occasioned in the House, to-day, during the roll-call on the motion to adjourn, at about 4 o'clock. Owing to the foggy weather, the hall had become so dark that it was necessary to light the gas. In doing this, one of the persons engaged lost his poise, and his foot crashed through the heavy plate-glass through which the hall is lighted, and the shattered fragments were dashed upon the heads of the members sitting directly underneath. Ex-Representative Grinnell, who sattalking with Mr. Price of Iowa, escaped serious injury by protecting his head with his hands as soon as the crash was heard. His hands were very severely cut, but his injuries, under the circumstances, may be considered slight. Mr. Price escaped with slight

The Ways and Means Committee to-day authorized Gen. Schenck to report the following bill for the relief of exporters of distilled spirits:

relief of exporters of distilled spirits:

That the act of Jan. 11, 1868, entitled "An Act to prevent frauds in the collection of the tax on distilled spirits," be so construed as to permit alcohol and rum which, at the date of the passage of said act, were already prepared and intended for export, or actually contracted for to be delivered for exportation, to be withdrawn, removed and exported from the United States under such transportation and export bonds and regulations as were required therefor immediately prior to the passage of said act, provided that all such spirits shall be actually exported within thirty days from the passage of this act, and upon failure to so export the same within said thirty days, the tax thereon shall become due and export thereof shall be forfeited and collected, as in case of such bonds not canceled according to law.

The President's second state dinner took place to-

The President's second state dinner took place to night. There were present beside the President and his family, Secretary Seward and family, Mr. Bigelow, late Minister to France, and Mrs. Bigelow, the following named members of the foreign diplomatic corps and the ladies of their households: Mr. Thornton, Mr. Berthamy, Mr. Stoeckel, Baron and Baroness Von Gerolt and the Misses Gerolt, Baron De Wettertedt, Senor Don T. Gnoni, Mr. Rongabe, Senor Demagalhaens and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mr. Blacquebey and wife, Chevalier Cerruti, Mr. Defasse, Mr. Mosel, Don Gutierrez, Mr. and Mrs. Daroza, Baron De Frankenstein, Mr. F. E. Bille.

The following is a copy of Gen. Sherman's letter to the President so often alluded to within the past onth in the newspapers:

month in the newspapers:

Washington, Saturday, Jan., 1868.

I neglected this morning to say that I had agreed to go down to Annapolis to spend Sunday with Admiral Porter. Gen. Grant also has to leave for Richmond on Monday morning at 6 a. m. At a conversation with the General after our interview, wherein I offered to go with him on Monday morning to Mr. Stanton, and to say that it was our joint opinion he should resign, it was found impossible, by reason of his going to Richmond and my going to Annapolis. The General proposed this course. He will call on you to-morrow, and offer to go to Mr. Stanton and say, for the good of the service and of the country, he ought to resign. This on Sunday. On Monday I will again call on you, and, if you think it necessary, I will do the same, call on Mr. Stanton and tell him he should resign. If he will not, then it will be time to contrive ulterior measures. In the mean time, it so happens that no necessity exists for precipitating matters.

Yours, truly, W. T. Sherman, Lieut.-Gen.

conference on the case of Mr. Butler, a sec, and agreed that he could not take the oath prescribed by Congress, owing to his hav-ing occupied a seat in the Legislature of Tennessee, and taken an oath to support the Confederate States Government; but that as he was unquestionably loyal to the United States Government all the time, the Committee will recommend that th House pass a joint resolution similar to that passed by the Senate in the case of Mr. Patterson of Tennessee, omitting in Mr. Butler's case, as in the case of Mr. Patterson, a part of the Congressional oath required to be taken by the members of both branches. The Committee will report on Monday.

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Major Donelson and Minor Merriwether, agents of the Levee Board of the State of Mississippi, arrived here yesterday. They seek an appropriation for the levees of the Yazoo basin, extending on the east side of the Mississippi River from Memphis to Vicksburg. An advisory meeting was held last night at the rooms of Senator Fowler at which most of the Tennessee delegation were present, and many members of Congress from sections not immediately interested in the work. The necessity of Congressional assistance seems to be necessity of Congressional assistance seems to be conceded; otherwise vast tracts of productive lands must be flooded. Major Donelson and Mr. Merriwether are hopeful of securing the appropriations for which they have been directed by the Mississippi Levee Board to ask. Cases were argued in the Supreme Court to-day, as

Weaver Victory, appellant agt. Brylan et al.: No. 153.
Gill, plaintiff in error, agt. Fernwick: No. 87, Lessee of
Povet, plaintiff in error, agt. Consadine.

LATEST GENERAL NEWS.

[By Telegraph]

.. The Conservative Army and Navy Union ... The Ohio Legislative Committee on Insane

.Mr. John Dooley, a prominent merchant hwond, Va., died on Thursday night.

...Bishop Bourget intends to investigate the affairs of the Montreal St. Patrick's Society.

...One of the Clinton Bank burglars was taken into custody in Utica on Thursday night.

... The new military Mayor of Charleston, Burns, entered upon his duties yesterday.

. John Johnson of Scranton, Penn., acci-The Hon, W. B. Kinnear of the New-Bruns-

wick Legislature, and Judge of the St. John Probate Court, is dead.John Anderson of Framingham, Mass. cen committed on charge of setting fire to Cutler's at Ashland.

.... A Mr. Sweeny was killed, yesterday after-.The Bank Commissioners closed the Na-

....Buffalo appointed 40 delegates yesterday the Canal Convention, to be held in to represent her in the Albany next Tuesday.

... The ship Guardian cleared from San Francisco yesterday for Liverpool, with 2,000 barrels of flour and 20,000 sacks of wheat.

... At a Convention in New Philadelphia, Otto, on Thursday, Bridgeport, Ohio, was designated as the terminus of the proposed Wheeling and Toledo Raii-

Messrs. Kelly & Grimes's chair-factory, in Cineinnati, was shattered by the explosion of the boiler, yesterday morning, and two children were injured by the flying missiles.

...The boiler in Mr. George Evans's mill at Croscentville, Philadelphia, exploded on Thursday after-ternoon, and Daniel and Henry Taylor, engineer and assistant, were severally scalded. The building was shat-tered.

ROBBERIES IN THE WEST.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 21.—MF. A. J. Cooper of the firm of Blair, Cooper & Co., merebants of New Mexico, was robbed of 307 ounces of gold, valued at about \$7,000, on the cars between Kansas City and St. Louis, on Wednesday pight. The gold was abstracted from a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and not missed until Mr. Cooper arrived here. As a value and the could not answer the new of the treasure has been offered. Mr. Blair was formed to recovery of the treasure has been offered. Mr. Blair was formed by a resident of Cincinnati, and Mr. Cooper of Business of the War Department, and the could not to communicate.

Mr. JOHNSON explained that he had merely intended to say that many acts were done by the Secretary of State which, properly belonged to the War Department, without the knowledge of its head.

This topic was that historimation to the Governor of South Carolina at that time.

Mr. HENDRICKS (Dem., Ind.) asked whether the information communicated in the telegram did not trally represent the judgment of the Cabinet.

Mr. AMERON replied that the pelley of the Cabinet.

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XIAH CONGRESS-IID SESSION.

SENATE ... WASHINGTON, Feb. 21, 1868.

The Secretary of the Treasury sent in a reply to the resolution of inquiry, whether any, and what increase has been made in the number of employes at the New-York Custom-House, since July last, and whether rease. Committee on Finance. The Secretary says clerks, aggregate salanes, \$15,000 per annum; 7 temporary clerks for three months, \$2.450; 2 messengers, \$1,300 22 inspectors, \$32,120; 20 night-inspectors, \$21,900; 3 clerks, naval office, \$3.600; 3 clerks, 30 days, \$350; 1 examiner, \$1,800-the whole amounting, in the aggregate, to \$78,600 nentioned were employed in carrying out certain regulasioned by the necessity of bringing out work which had fallen in arrears during past administrations of the affairs of the Custom-House by reason of the revival of the ninth or legal division of the Custom-House, which has the charge of all cases that are the subject of controversy in the courts, and for other reasons.

CITIZENS' RIGHTS IN KENTUCKY.

Mr. SUMNER (Rep., Mass.) presented a petition from the colored citizens of Kentucky, praying that since Stavery has been abolished, a law may be passed, or that the Constitution may be amended, so that no State shall abridge the privileges of any citizen of the United States. He had never heard any satisfactory argument against the proposed legislation. Judiciary Committee.

CAPTORS OF THE REBEL RAM ALBEMARLE.

Mr. CONKLING (Rep., N. Y.) presented a petition from the persons who participated in the capture of the Rebel ram Albemarle, praying for a share in the prize money. Committee on Claims.

USURY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Mr. HARLAN (Rep., Iowa) reported, with amendments, the bill relating to the usury laws of the District of Columbia. The legal rate of interest is fixed at 6 per cent, unless specified by contract, when it may be as high as 10 per cent. sloned by the necessity of bringing out work which had

unles specified by contract, when it may be as high as 10 per cent. DUTY UPON NITRATE OF SODA.

Mr. COLE (Rep., Cal.) introduced a bill amending the import laws so as to allow a drawback on foreign intrate of soda manufactured into gunpowder in the United States, and exported therefron the same as on foreign saltpeter, when so manufactured and exported. Committee on Finance.

PHILADELPHIA NEWSFAPERS ON POSTAGE.

Mr. CAMERON (Rep., Penn.) presented a petition from the publishers of the Fhiladelphia newspapers, complaining that a great wrong is done them in postal charges.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Rep., Oregon) introduced a bill to provide for the registration of electors in the Territorics of the United States. Committee on Territorics.

Mr. PATTERSON (Dein., Tenn.)—A bill for charging the time of holding the District and Circuit Courts in Tennessee. Judiciary Committee.

Mr. HOWE (Rep., Wia) introduced a bill organizing a Committee of the registration of claims and or claims as foreign of claims of claims of claims and or claims.

Dessee. Judiciary Committee.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Mr. HOWE (Rep., Wis.) introduced a bill organizing a Commission for the examination and decision of claims on the War Department. Committee on the Judiciary. It provied for the detailing by the Secretary of War, of three officers not below the rank of Colonel to act as Commissioners, and one not below the rank of Captain, to act as Recorder, to whom may be referred as special claims within the jurisdiction of the Department, when presented either originally or on appeal. The decisions of the Commission shall be held to be the faul decisions of the Department. The Commission is required to dispose of the claims in the order of their filing, and publish weekly in a Washington newspaper a brief report of their decisions. It is finally provided that nothing contained in this bill shall be held to open for the consideration of said Commission any claim heretofore adjusted.

Mr. SUMNER (Rep., Mass.)—A resolution, which was adopted, requesting the Precident to communicate copies of any correspondence on the subject of the abduction of Allan McDonald, an American citizen in Canada.

SETTING HISTORY RIGHT.

cussion on Monday last the remarks which were made by Mr. Hendricks and himself concerning a telegram having telegram was to that effect. He remembered very disstood this to be the fact, and appointed a committee to investigate the subject, and their report was that a teleupon Samter, the telegraph was in the hands of the Gov and that, moreover, it had been determined to attack Fort Sumter some time before, and Mr. Lincoln had sent them time to reflect. Mr. Grimes was gratified to know that Mr. Harvey was vindleated from a charge never, to his knowledge, heretofore contradicted, having always understood that a dispatch was sent as alleged, with the knowledge and approbation of the Secretary of State and say that he never sent such a dispatch.

Mr. CAMERON (Rep., Penn.) said that Mr. Harvey did send such a dispatch to the Governor of South Carolina, and that he (Mr. Cameron) had a copy of it in his pocketbook only last week, but that it had been lost.

Mr. SUMNER (Rep., Mass.) had two dispatches from Mr. Harvey to the Governor of South Carolina placed in his hands at the time by the Secretary of War, now Senstor from Pennsylvania (Mr. Cameron). Four or five such dispatches had been sent by Mr. Harvey. After the lapse of time he could not describe exactly their contents, but he thought they were substantially as stated. He could not say whether they were sent under the authority of the Secretary of State. Mr. CONKLING (Rep., N. Y.) also had had copies of

these dispatches which had been read in the House of Representatives, with letters in vindication of Mr. Harvey. He held the charges to be cruelly unjust.

Mr. CAMERON said that when he obtained the dispatch, he had considered it very important, and that it ought to be kept secret, and he had, therefore, himself carried it to Mr. Lincoln, who expressed as much surprise as he did. It seemed very strange that such an important matter, which should have been kept entirely secret, should be revealed by a member of the Administra-

ion without consulting other members of the Cabinet.
Mr. ANTHONY (Rep., R. I.) said that his recollection restigation it was found that the dispatch was sent with the consent of the Administration.

Mr. SUMNER-Not the Administration !

Mr. GRIMES-Members of the Administration.

Mr. JOHNSON (Dem., Md.) was sure that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Cameron) was right, [that Mr. Harvey did transmit these dispatches without the Cabinet's knowledge, but he was equally sure that it was with the knowledge of the Secretary of State, and as Mr. Harvey supposed, with the knowledge of President Lincoln. Having been on friendly terms with Mr. Harvey, Mr. Johnson believed that what he did was with that bonvletion and with a pure purpose. A great many things were done at that period doubtless, that were not made known to the Secretary of War. The Secretary of State no doubt. patriottic really, carried on the War and Navy Department for a time, acting in many particulars without the knowledge of either, who were more astonished afterwards, than anybody else on learning what had been

Mr. CAMERON thought it a remarkable assertion that Mr. Seward had carried on the War Department.

Mr. JOHNSON-Without your knowledge! Mr. CAMERON thought it was not so, with er without his knowledge. He had manliness enough to take care that it should not be done more than once. Mr. Seward had never meddled with it. He dared say that gentlehings which probably were not exactly correct. If he had said this he had certainly said that which was not tion, though he might have been by Mr. Seward in his policy of ending the war in 60 days. He (Mr. Cameron) policy of ending the war in 60 days. He (Mr. Cameron) never believed that by temporizing, or by flattering, or by coaring the Rebels peace could be secured. He believed then, what circuistances had since proved, that the only way to end the war was to treat the Rebels with the utmost rigor. He did not believe that Mr. Seward had interfered with the Navy Department either. He algorized that the best way would be to pass a resolution asking Mr. Seward whether he did authorize Mr. Harcey to give that information to the Governor of South carolina at that time.

cast shall decide elections, and to allow persons registered to vote in any part of the State.

Mr. CONKLING (Rep., N. Y.) took the floor and commented upon Mr. Trumbull's remarks yesterday relative to his continuous opposition to the principle of requiring a majority of the registered voters, and he quoted from The Globe to show that that Senator had voted for it when the bill was pending. He for one believed that action of Congress to be right. In the hope that the South would come forward manufully and assist in establishing loyal governments, the act of March 2 was passed disfranchising only a few leaders. Subsequently the act of March 23 was passed to provide security in case the people should not come forward. He then spoke of the combination to defeat a constitution in a recent election, and read a table to show that a much larger white registration was secured under these measures than under the President's policy, under which North Carolina had a registration in 1855 of 41,000, while under the former it had been 183,000. He denied, therefore, that Congress had committed any blunder in passing the act of March 23, which had removed many existing impediments to registration, and enabled loyal men, white and black, to unite in the creation of loyal governments. He saw nothing to repent. He voted for the proposition at every stage, and should have done so if he had then all the light that had since been thrown on the subject. While he had donbts of the efficacy of the present measure, he was ready to try it as an experiment, believing that those who had deluged the land with blood should not be allowed to resume their former sway.

Mr. TRUMBULL (Rep., Ill.) explained that he reported

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

Mr. WOOD (Dem., N. Y.) moved that tomorrow, being Washington's birthday, the House, when it

adjourus, shall adjourn until Monday.

Mr. WASHBURNE (Rep., Ill.) opposed the motion, and suggested that as many of the members desire an opportunity to speak, the session for to-morrow should be for general debate only. Mr. WOOD accepted the proposition, and it was so

Mr. BALDWIN (Rep., Mass.) reported an act for securng to authors, in certain cases, the benefit of an international copyright, advancing the development of American

ing to authors, in certain cases, the benefit of an laternational copyright, advancing the development of American literature, and promoting the interests of publishers and book-buyers in the United States. Ordered to be printed with the report, and recommitted, with leave to Mr. Prnyn (Dem., N. Y.) to make a indiority report. (The report and bill are printed in full in another column).

Extension of Paten's.

Mr. JENCKES (Rep., R. I.) reported a bill granting leave for an application for the extension of Horace Smith and D. B. Wesson's patent for improvements in repeating firearms, the same as though the application had been filed 30 days varior to the expiration of the patent, Peb. 14, 1854. The bill having been expialined by Messrs. JENCKES and DAWES, was passed by Yeas, 88; Nays, 38.

Mr. JENCKES also reported a bill for the relief of Martha M. Jones, administratix of Samuel J. Jones, deceased, who was the patentie of an invention in the manufacture of the white exyd of zine. The bill gives force and validity to the extension granted Peb. 23, 1866, for seven years from July 23, 1864. Not withstanding that a patent granted in Great Britain expired at that time, after explanation by Mr. Jenckes the bill was passed.

Mr. PETERS (Rep., Me.) reported a bill to extend Samuel Pierce's patent for improvements in stoves, and moved the previous question. The House refused to second the previous question, and, the morning hour having expired, the bill went over.

POSTMASTER RANDALL DEMANDS A PUBLIC INVESTIGATION.

The SPEAKER presented the following letter, which was read and referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Post-Office Department:

POSTMASTER RANDALL DEMANDS A PUBLIC INVESTIGATION.

The Hos. Securizar Colear, Specier of the House of Representatives in the Post-Office Department:

in the Post-Office Department:

The Hose Schutter Colpax, Spather of the House of Representatives, Siz: I have just read with anomisment a detail of some testimony in The Daily Globe, tending to implicate me in a franchest constraine in letting contracts for carrying Southern mails. I have never heard of some of the men named in this testimony before. So man ever approached me with any such propositions as are indicated in that testimony for the proposition of the contract of the testimony of the surface of such a project before; I never do beginess in that way, or zur of that kind of business. I sai a thorough, searching investigation, not only into the matter indicated in that testimony, but into every other official transaction of the Post-Office Department since I have been connected with it. I also respectfully ask that this three light to be open and public to the world. If this is the proper mode of presenting my wishes to the House of Representatives, I will be obliged if this letter can be laid before that body. Vety respectfully.

ALEXANDER W. RANDALL, Postmaster-General. UNIFORM COINAGE.

Mr. KELLY (Rep., Penn.) introduced a bill to establish a uniform system of small colins. Committee on Colunge.

Mr. CAVANAUGH (Denn., Montana) introduced a bill to provide for mail service between Fort Aberterombie, Dakota Territory, and Helena, Montana. Post-Office Committee.

Mr. INGERSOLL (Rep., Ill.) asked and obtained leave

Mr. INGERSOLL (Rep., III.) asked and obtained leave for Mr. WASHBURNE (Rep., III.) to report from the Committee on Commerce a bill reviving for two years the second section of the Act of April 5, 1856, constituting Hannibal, Mo., and Peoria, III., ports of delivery. After explanation by Mr. Ingersoll, the bill was passed.

Mr. COVODE (Rep., Penn.) reported a bill relative to the Jail of the District of Columbia. Ordered to be printed and recommitted. The report condemns the manner in

the Jail of the District of Columbia. Ordered to be printed and recommitted. The report condemns the manner in which the contracts were let; recommends that they be annuled and the work stopped; declares that fair and equal competition was impossible, on account of the incompleteness of the architect's plans; and recommends that the work be taken out of the hands of the Secretary of the Interior, that officer being evidently unable or unwilling to give it proper attention. The report exorerates the contractor for the iron-work (Charles A. Weidner of Chester, Penn.), and recommends an adjustment of his claims.

The House at 14 o'clock went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union (Mr. DAWES, Rep.,

ipal items:	Why the desired
Pay of officers and seamen	\$8,000,000
Preservation of vessels in ordinary, material, stores, &c.	Colonia Colonia
and maintenance of the Navy affect	3,000,000
Bureau of Yards and Docks for contingent expenses	800,000
	.650,000
Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting	268,000
Burean of Navigation	126,000
Expenses of Naval Academy	268,460
Ex ouses of Naval Observatory	25,000
Bereau of Ordnance	233,000
Bureau of Construction and Repairs	33,000
Burean of Steam Engineering	674,000
Burean of Provisions and Clothing	
Bureau of Provisions and Ciocaing	82,000
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery	280.000
Marine Corps	
The second section fixes the number of cultated men i	n the navy, in

chaling apprentices and nove, at a color. The third section of the Naval Appropriation bill of March 3, 1847; the second section of the act of March 3, 1893, to increase the pay of mid-slopmen and others; the second section of the act of the 31st of August, 1842, to regulate the appointment and pay of angineers; the single socious of the act of March 2, 1895, to establish the office of Solicitor and Naval

of the act of March 2, 1055, to establish the office of Solicitor and Naval Judge Advocate.

The fourth section gives to enlisted men who perform the duty of fire men or coal-leavers \$85 a month in addition to their regular pay.

The fifth section five the force of the marine coaps at the number established by the act of July 25, 1935, and repeals all conditions provisions.

A discussion, which hinged principally upon the disposition of unexpended moneys in the Navy Department, and extended to questions of extravagance and economy sprang up, and was participated in by Meszra, WASH-BURNE (Rep., III.), LOGAN (Rep., III.), PIKE (Rep., Manne), WOOD (Denn., N. Y.), SPALDING (Rep., Onion, BANKS (Rep., Mass.), MYERS (Rep., Penn.), RANDALL (Denn., Penn.), ARCHER (Dem., Md.), BUTLER (Rep., Mass.), and others.

BURNE (Rep., HE), LOGAN (Rep., HD), PIKE (Rep., Maine), WOOD (Dem., N. Y.), SPALDING (Rep., Onio), BANKS (Rep., Mass.), MYLRS (Rep., Penn.), RANDALL (Dem., Penn.), ARCHER (Dem., Md.), BUTLER (Rep., Mass.), and others.

Mr. WASHBURNE said that the first estimate for nished by the Secretary of the Navy was for \$27.00,000; that his amended estimate reduced the amount to \$25.00,000, and that the Committee on Appropriations independently trustworthy to guide the House in legislation.

The administration of the Secretary of the Navy would be sufficiently trustworthy to guide the House in legislation.

The administration of the Secretary of the Navy, and his reports and estimates were generally defended by Messrs. Pike, Wood, Spadling, Randall, and Archer, and a long letter from the Secretary of the Navy immself was read in piecemeal, and at various intervals.

Mr. BUTLER (Rep., Mass.) offered an amendment providing that all unexpended moneys subject to the order of the Secretary of the Navy on the 1st of July, 1885, shall be expended or drawn while any other merchanisms, and that no amount appropriated in the bill shall be expended or drawn while any other merchanisms, and the national appropriated in the bill shall be expended or drawn while any other merchanisms, and not having the force of the Navy of the Navy. Agreed to.

Mr. BANKS (Rep., Mass.) criticized the alacrity of the Secretary of the Navy in adapting himself to the resolution of the House requiring a reduction of force at the Navy-Yards, such resolution having been merely an expression of opinion, and not having the force of law. He asked whether Mr. Washburne could explain.

Mr. WASHBURNE confessed his inability to do so, and remarked that the ways of the Secretary are "past finding out."

Mr. RANDALL (Dem., Penn.) had called on the Secretary and found that he left bound to respect the expressed wishes of the House. Knowing the maligning of the public press and of some members of congress, he (Randall) did not attempt to chauge the Secretary as decision

printed. Mr. BOUTWELL (Rep., Mass.) suggested, with authorty to report at any time.

Mr. WASHBURNE so medified the motion and moved

the previous question.

Mr. MUNGEN (Dem., Ohio) wished to move, as an amendment, its reference to the Judiciary Cosmoittee, but the previous question prevailed.

Mr. LAWRENCE (Rep., Ohio) wished to have it referred to be a selected of the control of the control

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

it time to adjourn, and had Yeas and Nays called on the motion, but without effect.

Mr. VAN TRUMP (Rep., Penn.) presented petitions of the citizens of Ross county and of Adelphi, Ohio, graying Congress to pass a law to authorize the issuing of United States lenal-tender Treasury notes sufficient to pay the United States bonds. Ways and Mean.

The House again went into Committee on the NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. PIKE (Rep., Me.) made the point of order that Sections 3, 4, and 5 were independent legislation, changing the existing laws, and therefore not in order in an appropriation bill.

The CHAIR sustained the point of order.

priation bill.

The CHAIR sustained the point of order.

The COMMITTEE rose and reported, and the bill was, on motion of Mr. WASHBURNE (Rep., Ill.) postponed until Monday next.

IMPERCHMENT OF THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. COVODE (Rep., Penn.), as a question of privilege, offered the following resolution:

offered the following resolution:

Revolved. That Addrew Johnson, President of the United States, be impeached for high crines and misdemeanors.

[Languiter among the Democratic members.]

Mr. WOOD (Dem., N. Y.) objected.

The SPEAKER ruled that the resolution was a question of privilege.

Mr. BOUTWELL (Rop., Mass.) moved the reference of Mr. BOUTWELL (Rop., Mass.) moved the reference of Reconstruction.

he resolution to the committee Agreed to. The House then adjourned until to-morrow

POLITICAL.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. INFORMAL MEETING-THE PRELIMINARY MEET-

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 .- The Committee which vas appointed by the Chicago National Democratic Convention met informally, this morning, in the Resident Committee's rooms, and after considerable bate relative to the throwing open the deors to the public, and to the powers of the irregularly appointed members from the Southern States, it was decided that the Committee should meet to morrow at noon with closed doors to settle the details which are to govern the regular meetings of the Committee. The members who attended the informal meeting are Mesers. A. Belmont of New-York, S. E. Lyman of Malae, H. B. Smith of Vermont, William Converse of Connecticut, W. A. Galbraith of Pennsylvania, J. A. Nicholson of Delaware, L. S. Trimble of Kentneky, R. P. Ranny of Ohio, W. E. Nichack of Indians, W. F. Btory of Illinois, L. V. Bogy of Missouri, J. H. McKlyney of Minnesota, Geo. H. Paul of Wisconsin, Chas. Mason, preny of D. O. French of Iowa; Perry Fuller, proxy of T. E. Eaten of Kansas; John Patrick of Nebraska, Geo. S. Houston of Alabama, Thomas Sweeny of West Virgima, Judge Marvin of Florida, J. W. Leftwich of Tennessee, R. S. Stevens, proxy of A. B. Greenwood of Arkansas, and J. A. Roese of Louisina.

Among the conspicuous Democrats who were present,

of Louisiana.

Among the conspicuous Democrats who were present, but not members of the Committee, are Messrs, Staniss and Allen of Augusta, Me.: Green, Fitch, Taylor, Winslow and Rice of Cleveland, Ohio; Mouroe and Melard of Nevada; Kenelricha of Leavenworth; Miller of Connecticut; Bruce of Montana; Wendell of Michigan; Samuel J. Tilden, Manton Marble of The World; Humphrey, Prince, Cornell and Cuyler of New-York; and Barckly, Magnire, Davis and Buckner of Maryland.

GERMAN REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

MISSISSIPPI.

THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

JACKSON, Feb. 21.—The State Democratic Convention adjourned last night, after adopting a resolution in consonance with the principles of the National Democratic party and electing delegates to the National Convention. Messrs. W. S. Featherstone, E. M. Yerger E. C. Walthum, and W. T. Morton are delegates for the State at large.

THE SOUTHERN CONVENTIONS.

The Florida Convention adopted several articles of the new Constitution yesterday. Convention will sit both day and evening.

The South Carolina Convention spent yester-day in debate. Several leading colored delegates have gone to Washington to ascertain the probable reception of colored Congressmen, and the chance of obtaining from Congress land for the negroes. NORTH CAROLINA-RAILROADS

NORTH CAROLINA—RAILROADS.

RALEIGH, Feb. 21.—The Convention is still engaged in the discussion of suffrage. No vote was taken, nor was any other business of importance transacted. Various railroad propositions involving an increase of the State liabilities to over 85,000,000, have been laid before the Convention, but none have been acted upon except the one indersing a million of bends for the Wilmington, Charlotte, and Ratherford Railroad Company.

MISSISTIPE—EDUCATIONAL QUALITICATION.
JACKSON, Feb. 21.—In the Convention to-day a member asserted that Ger. Gillem would not caferase

VIRGINIA—CHERRING GEN. LEE,
RICHMOND, Feb. 2).—The Virginia Convention were engaged to day in discussing the sufrage question. On the Conservative side it was asserted that the
white men of the State would never submit to regre rule,
and that the men who fought under Lee would sooner die.
The name of Lee elicited applanse from the white spectators, which was checked by the Casir. The Speaker and
that the whites wished the biseks well, and would be willing to be taxed heavily to colonize them on the best lands
the flovernment owned. Two black deligates replied,
urging the right of the negro to suffrage, and his capacity
to use it for good. The Convention adjourned till Monday, to observe to merrow as a holder.

GERMANTOWN WOOLEN MILL DESTROYED LOSS PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 21 .- At 1 o'clock this

moraing an engineer on the railroad discovered the large stone woolen mill in Willow-ave., near Germantown, on

OHIO LEGISLATURE-RAILROAD COMMISSIONER, COLUMBES, Feb. 21.—The House Committee on Radwards has reported against the repeal of the law to provide for the appointment of a Commissioner of Radwards and the Telegraph. The report was tabled.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN TAILAHASSEE—A SOLDIER BURNED TO DEATH.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Feb. 21,—The building occupind by Messrs, Kirksey & Johnson was destroyed by flict this northing. The fire was discovered in a vacar t store next to the North State Bank, which sustained some injury. Messrs, Kirksey & Johnson are insured for 80,000 on stock and 8,000 on building by the Home Company of New York, Guil-State, and Home of New Haven. A soldier named Plant was eaught by a fishing wall, and burned to death. Several other persons were bouned. It was doubtless the work of an incendiary.

Mr. MUNGEN (Dom., Ohio) wished to move, as an immediated, at the previous question prevailed.

CHICAGO, Feb. 21.—United States detectives to-day made a descent on a house in Mayet, capturing four persons and seleng 40,000 in counterfeit fractional currency, these places, e.e. The prisoners were held to have WARHBURNE would not consent. The Committee